1. Library

LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 5 9.

Council Offices,
Flax Bourton,
Nr. Bristol. Tele No. Flax Bourton
251

"St.Martins",
Long Ashton.
Tele.No. Long Ashton 3140.

M.C.O'CONNOR,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

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LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st. 1959.

Medical Officer of Heath	M.C.O'Connor, M.B., B.S.,D.P.H.
Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.	G.K.Foster, M.R.S.H., A.I.W.E.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.	B.Barker.
Assistant Public Health Inspector	J.Wynne Jones.
Housing Manager(died 8th August)	C.H.Carey.
Building Surveyor	S.Brierley, A.I.A.S.
Housing and Public Health Assistant	M.M.Anderson.
Deputy Surveyor & Asst.Engineer (from February 1st)	R.G.Adams, M.I.M.E.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health :-

Public Health and Housing Committee
Planning Committee
Accident Prevention Committee.

- o - O - o -

To Chairman and Members of the Long Ashton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting my eight Annual Report on the Health, Sanitary and Social conditions of the District for the year ending December 31st. 1959.

Theinformation therein is, as far as possible, in conformity with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, with such added matter as is deemed necessary for record and for your information and interest.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area.	45,434 acres.
Population, as assessed by the Registrat General for mid-1959	25,330

STATISTICS(Cont'd.)

at 31.12.59	Number of permanent dwellings	8,484
	Rateable Value	£315,855
	Product of Penny Rate(1959-60)	£1,250

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.	Male	Female	Total.
Legitimate	175	193	368
Illegitimate	8	6	14
Totals	183	199	382

Apparently 103 of these were born in their own homes, i.e. 27% of all live births.

Live Birth Rate.

The Birth-Rate at 382 for a population of 25,330 is 15.8 per 1,000; but, when adjusted to the population distribution factor(comparability factor) become :-

Live Birth Rate 16.7 per 1,000 population.

Estimated rate for England and Wales for 1960 - 16.5
the highest since 1949.

STILL BIRTHS.

Male	Female	Total.	
5	4	9	All legitimate.

INFANT DEATHS.

	Male	Female	Total.	
Under 1 week	-	2	2	
Total under 4 weeks	-	3	3	
Total under 1 year	-	3	3	All legitimate.

Both the early deaths were of premature births in Hospital; one mother from a caravan at Redcliffe Bay and the other from Tyntesfield Camp.

DEATH RATES.

These are asked for by the Registrar, but with the small numbers involved give a very distorted figure - one death can make such a great difference either way.

Infant Mortality Rate. 3 per 382 Live Births = 8 per 1,000
3 per 368 Legitimate do. = 8.15 per 1,000
0 per 17 Illegitimate do. = Nil per 1,000

Neo-natal Mortality rate(first 4 weeks) = 8 per 1,000 related to live births
Early neo-natal rate(first week) = 5.3 " " " "
Peri-natal rate(stillbirths + deaths during first week) = 28 " total live & still births.

Maternal Deaths Nil.

The total number of Deaths in the District was 301, details of which are given over-leaf, this gives the figure for the Death Rate at 11.9 per 1,000 population, but, when adjusted by the comparability factor :-

Adjusted Death Rate = 11.4 per 1,000 population.

National Death Rate = 11.6 " " "

VITAL STATISTICS.
DEATHS.

Causes. (Registrar General's Return.)

Disease.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	1	-	1
" other	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic disease	-	1	1
Cancer, Stomach	5	3	8
" Lung & bronchus	13	1	14
" Breast	-	8	8
" Uterus	-	-	-
" Bowel	4	6	10
" all other	10	7	17
Leukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular disease of nervous system	19	31	50
Coronary disease of heart	38	27	65
Hypertension, with heart disease	3	3	6
Other heart disease	14	17	31
Other circulatory disease	11	11	22
Influenza	2	3	5
Pneumonia	2	6	8
Bronchitis	3	7	10
Other respiratory disease	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	2	3
Gastritis, Enteritis or Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Kidney disease	-	1	1
Enlarged Prostate, non-malignant	1	-	1
Congenital deformity	1	1	2
Other and ill-defined diseases	8	12	20
Motor Accidents	4	-	4
All other accidents	4	2	6
Suicides	2	3	5
Totals	147	154	301

Age Distribution.

1 to 12 months	-	3	3
1 to 4 years	1	-	1
5 to 14 years	2	-	2
15 to 44 years	10	5	15
45 to 64 years	44	29	73
65 to 74 years	36	44	80
75 and over	54	73	127
Totals	147	154	301

Comment.

It will be seen that Coronary Disease of the Heart is still the predominating cause of death, though Cancer of the Lungs shews a steady increase. There is also a definite increase in thedeaths in 45 - 64 age group.(73 out of a total of 301). The impression is obtained, on study of the records, that more women are dying earlier of what we are apt to call 'stress' diseases such as coronary disease, 'strokes' and heart diseases than was the case in past years. The men still monopolise the lung cancer position.

There were 3 Home Accidents, one a man of 79 from gas poisoning, and 2 old ladies (83 and 90) who fell to break their hips and died after operation.

In this District for suicide hemen seem to choose violent methods while the women choose coal gas.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following numbers of cases of notifiable diseases were reported during the year :-

Disease.	Total Notified.	Deaths.
Measles	583	-
Scarlet Fever	44	-
Puerperal Fever	2	-
Dysentery	9	-
Whooping Cough	86	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	17	8
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	6	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-
Food Poisoning	6	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	3	2
Non-respiratory	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 3 new cases of lung tuberculosis reported during the year and one of gland infection. Eleven were transferred to our Register from other districts. At the end of the year the distribution of cases on the Register was as follows :-

Parish.	M.	F.	Total.	Parish.	M.	F.	Total.
Abbots Leigh	1	2	3	Backwell	7	6	13
Barrow Gurney	1	2	3	Brockley	-	-	-
Clapton-in-Gordano	1	-	1	Cleeve	1	1	2
Dundry	5	1	6	Easton-in-Gordano	12	11	23
Flax Bourton	1	3	4	Kenn	-	-	-
Kingston Seymour	-	-	-	Long Ashton	13	7	20
Nailsea	7	6	13	North Weston	1	-	1
Portbury	-	-	-	Tickenham	-	1	1
Walton-in-Gordano	-	1	1	Weston-in-Gordano	1	2	3
Winford	4	1	5	Wraxall	2	4	6
Yatton	10	11	21	TOTAL	67	59	126

The Long Ashton figures are augmented by three occupants of Cambridge House, while those of Yatton include 6 occupants of Yatton Hall.

IMMUNISATION.

The following figures are supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health for the past year. The work is carried out by the general practitioners or at School or Infant Welfare Clinics.

Diptheria.

Number of children who completed a full course of PRIMARY injections :-

Age: Under 1	1.	2.	3.	4.	5-9	10-14	Total.
226	53	2	1	1	11	1	295

This compares with 296 for last year. The continued absence of this disease depends on the maintenance of this protection.

Number of children who received a re-inforcing injection during the year:-

Age:-	4	5 - 9	10 - 14	Totals.
	-	137	1	137

Smallpox.

Number of persons vaccinated (or revaccinated) during the year :-
(P = Primary; R = Re-vaccination.)

Age Group:-	Under 1 :	1 :	2 - 4 :	5-14 :		15 or over :		Totals.	
	P	P	P	P	R	P	R	P	R
	124	11	7	4	2	11	30	157	32

It must be realised that bordering, as we do, on an active Port, there is always the possibility of the introduction of this disease, and only those protected by vaccination are safe from this serious disease.

Whooping Cough.

Number of children who completed a primary course(normally 3 injections) of vaccine (singly or in combination) during the year :-

Age:-	Under 1.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5-14	Totals.
	218	56	2	1	-	1	278

Poliomyelitis.

Number of persons who received a course of primary vaccination(two injections) and number of persons who received a third(re-inforcing) injection during the year :-

		1958
Born in years 1933 - 42	890	14
Born in years 1943 - 59	2,291	2,095
Expectant Mothers	140	30
Doctors & families	8	16
Ambulance staffs and families	2	
All groups receiving third injection	3,423	3

In this, an alternate year, a higher incidence of the disease might have been expected but throughout the country figures have been at a very low level. Perhaps we may hope that Poliomyelitis may share the fate of Diptheria, if the vaccination rate is maintained.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

The County Medical Officer of Health and his staff are responsible for the active operation of the Health Services under the National Health Service Acts, 1946 - 52.

These include :-

Maternity and Child Welfare. Tuberculosis.
Home Nursing and Health Visiting. Home Helps.
Welfare Foods. Mental Health.
School Medical Service. Immunisation.
Veneral Disease. Ambulance Service.

There has been no change in the arrangements for Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and the District Nurses and the personnel, addresses etc. are as detailed in last year's Annual Report.

Infectious Diseases are still admitted to Ham Green Hospital, which, however, is also a General Hospital admitting other cases, and of great service to the local medical practitioners and community.

Tuberculosis Clinics, are held at Clevedon, Ham Green Hospital and the Central Health Clinic in Bristol.

Mass Radiography was again carried out at Pill, in November least year, when 197 of the general public were examined. Only one 'significant. case was found, a case of inactive tuberculosis.

Old People's Clubs are active in Backwell, Long Ashton, Nailsea and Redcliffe Bay and an attempt has been made to establish some sort of chiropody service. Grants are made jointly by the County Council and this Council towards overhead expenses.

British Red Cross Society, through its Backwell and Long Ashton Centre, has continued to run its Medical Loan Centre and the Library Service at Barrow Gurney Hosiptal. Arrangements are being made to start a Meals-on-Wheels service for Long Ashton and the immediate area.

The Public Mortuary, is rented from Cambridge House, who share its use. The arrangement cannot be considered completely satisfactory. It has been hoped that the South Western Regional Hospital Board would find a more suitable hospital to provide the facilities. The present site is convenient for the Police and the Coroner.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Bristol Waterworks Company's supply has been satisfactory throughout the year and, in spite of the very dry summer, no restrictions were necessary throughout the District. The Company maintains a constant bacteriological watch on the purity of the supply. All Parishes now have piped water supply available except in some isolated parts.

Water Supply from Mains.

(a)

	DIRECT TO HOUSES.			VIA STANDPIPES.		
	Public.	Water Co.	Private.	Public.	Water Co.	Private.
Number of Dwellings.	-	8254	17	-	66	-
Estimated Population.	-	24,570	63	-	196	-

(b) Number of Parishes without supply - nil.

(c) Number of Parishes with piped supply :-
(i) from public mains - All 21. (ii) from private supply - nil

(d) Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for :-

(i) well water - 19 (ii) private source - nil (iii) other - nil.

Number of wells closed - 8

Number of houses relying on - (a) well supply - 115
(b) spring supplies - 17

Extension of Supplies during the year.

		Cost.
Winford.	Extension of Bristol Waterworks Company's supply mains to Strode and Plaisters Green under guarantee	£4,543(final cost)

Future Proposals.

There are no further extensions under consideration.

Public Swimming Pools and Baths.

There are none owned by this local authority.

There is only one in the District - at Ashton Court Club - which is well maintained, with a modern chlorinating plant.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Of the 21 Parishes in the District, the following were supplied with main drainage and efficient disposal systems at the end of the year.

Backwell	excluding Farleigh Church Lane, Church Town Backwell Common and Downside.
Cleeve	excluding Plunder Street and eastern portions.
Long Ashton	excluding Leigh Woods and Bridgwater Road area.
Easton-in-Gordano	Pill and Ham Green only.
Nailsea	Kingshill and Southfield Road areas only.
North Weston	excluding Redcliffe Bay area.
Clapton-in-Gordano	main village area.
Yatton	excluding Lower Claverham area and North End area.

Works for Council House Estates are established in :-

Dundry.
Lulsgate(Backwell)
Tickenham.
Wraxall.
Kenn.

EXTENSIONS made during the year.

Clapton-in-Gordano Sewerage and Sewage disposal for village.
Cost (Contract Sum) £11,589.

Flax Bourton Completion of the sewerage to remains of village.
Cost(Contract Sum) £10,516.

In progress of the end of the year.:-

Nailsea. Stage 3,(village and Old Church areas), of the Main Scheme for Nailsea.
Cost (Contract Sum) £89,951.

Portbury and Easton-in-Gordano. Sewerage and sewage disposal for Portbury Village and Easton-in-Gordano parts of that Parish.
Cost (Contract Sum) £37,128.

FUTURE PROPOSALS.

Nailsea. Stage 4,(South eastern area towards Backwell.) of the Nailsea Sewage Disposal Scheme and probable enlargement of the Backwell Works.
Cost(estimated) £87,000.

Nailsea. Surface water sewer to Kings Hill area, final outfall to be decided.
Cost ? £23,481.

Winford. Sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Winford and Felton. Joint scheme with Clutton R.D.C., with disposal works sited at Chew Magna to avoid contaminating Bristol Waterworks Catchment area. Scheme approved by Ministry and County Council.
Approximate Cost £117,475.

Backwell. Extension of Sewer to Farleigh, Church Lane and Church Town.
Approximate Cost £3,200.

Long Ashton and Dundry. Sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Bridgwater Road and Dundry Lane areas. Scheme approved by Ministry.
Approximate Cost £18,251.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

FUTURE PROPOSALS(Cont'd.)

North Weston. Sewarage of Redcliffe Bay area and joint Scheme with Portishead U.D.C. for disposal to sea in that District. Cost includes £6,100 contribution to Portishead.
Estimated Cost £42,000.

Comment.

Most of the Council's Sewage Plants have worked satisfactorily with the occasional bad report on the effluent from some of the small works. The Backwell and North Weston Works are heavily overloaded. Of the new works, that at Nailsea has been a source of anxiety. In the early days the emptying of a large number of cesspits into the new and not quite active works caused some offence from smell.

This had hardly passed before a serious overloading by effluent from the Cider Factory completely disorganised and very materially interfered with filtration. The Factory passed to the works a much larger than anticipated bulk of effluent of damaging quality which, at one phase completely 'gummed up' the filters with a thick black mould. This has enforced the rapid extension of the works and will necessitate double filtration as well as land irrigation and filtration before we can produce an effluent satisfactory to the River Board. A very expensive operation, solely due to the acceptance of this trade waste.

It may be possible that, with therapid and extensive development of Backwell and Nailsea, a major scheme for the discharge of raw sewage into thesea at Clevedon may be found to be the most satisfactory and desirable method of disposal.

CESSPOLL EMPTYING SERVICE.

Cesspool emptying is carried out by this local authority, with the occasional direct employment of a contractor when the demand is too heavy.

A charge is made for the service at the following rates :-

Domestic Premises 15/- per load or part load.
Business Premises 17/6 per hour, including travelling time.

Comment.

The following estimate of the position when the sewerage schemes at present in progress at Nailsea and for Portbury and Easton-in-Gordano are completed, as well as those proposed at Winford, Redcliffe Bay, Lower Dundry and Backwell Church Lane, gives the number of houses in Parishes without sewerage :-

Parish.		Parish.	
Abbots Leigh	225	Long Ashton	172
Backwell	155	Nailsea	66
Barrow Gurney	73	North Weston	94
Brockley	79	Portbury	79
Clapton-in-Gordano	40	Tickenham	230
Cleeve	66	Walton-in-Gordano	97
Dundry	203	Weston-in-Gordano	62
Easton-in-Gordano	45	Winford	105
Flax Bourton	13	Wraxall	487
Kenn	68	Yatton	84
Kingston Seymour	67	Total	2,510

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE(Cont'd.)

Your Public Health Inspector, who compiled these figures, estimates that these houses represent some 2,000 cesspools, and notes that there must be some increase in the future in spite of the green belt policy of restricting development to built-up areas. The total number can only be reduced by sewerage of places like Abbots Leigh and Leigh Woods.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following are the estimated numbers on December, 1959.

(1)	W.C.'s.	11,250	(2)	Chemical Closets	450
(3)	Pail Closets	600	(4)	Other	10

Number of conversions to water carriage system during year 52.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House Refuse is collected by direct labour, using the following vehicles :-

1 S.&.D.Freighter with power press giving capacity of 22 cubic yards.
1 S.&.D. 18 cubic yard.
2 Ford 10 cubic yard - one kept as spare.

Collection is weekly in the following parishes :-

Backwell	Barrow Gurney.
Brockley	Cleeve
Easton-in-Gordano	Flax Bourton.
Long Ashton	Nailsea.
North Weston	Yatton and Claverham.

in the other 11 parishes collection is made once each fortnight.

The Council has decided that a weekly collection will be made in all parishes as soon as equipment and staff are available. Two new vehicles are on order and it would seem that this wervice will be possible at the end of 1960 or early in 1961.

Trade Refuse is catered for at the following charges, but the scheme is so little used as to be practically non-existant. A considerable quantity of trade refuse i.e. paper and cardboard is collected as salvage.

Charges :- 6d. per bin.
up to 5 cwt. 3/6d. up to 10 cwt. 7/-d.
up to 15 cwt. 10/-d. up to 20 cwt. 15/-d.
every additional ton 12/-d.

Disposal is done by controlled tipping at a central site and was done at two old quarry sites, at Wraxall Piece and Cheston Combe, Backwell. Supervision is continuous and excellent, with a constant watch for fires, rats and flies. The former site has been filled and is now an excellent example of reclaimed land.

The commencement of any new tip is always a source of anxiety to its immediate neighbours, who are apprehensive of any nuisance, and to your officials before the lay-out and shcme of tipping is organised. The Backwell Tip is in an ideal situation and has, on the site, ample supplies of covering material in the form of quarry grit.

SALVAGE.

Over 170 tons of waste paper had been saved, baled and sold to manufacturers for £1,061.11.1d. and 84 cwt. of rags to fetch £86. 7. 9d.

LITTER.

The Council has placed nearly 100 litter baskets throughout the District, and is always co-operative when requests are made for further supply. Those in the villages are emptied by the Refuse vehicle staff, while those on main roads, at lay-bys, are dealt with by the County District Surveyor's road staff.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS.

A 'Rodent Operator' is employed by the Council. The year has not been without difficulty in maintaining the service for parts of the year due to staff changes and the demands of other duties. The position is now rectified.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES.

	Permanent.	Seasonal.
(a) Number of licensed individual moveable dwellings	39	-
(b) Number of licensed camping sites	19	-
Maximum number if caravans allowed per acre	16	16
Estimated total number of residents during year	500	2,000

HOUSING.

Number of permanent dwellings as at 31.12.58		7,978
Number gained by conversions and erected during year, (Local Authority and Private Enterprise)		550
	Total	8,528
Number of houses demolished, closed etc.		44

TOTAL NUMBER OF PERMANENT HOUSES as at 31.12.59

Local Authority	1,579	
Private Enterprise	6,949	
	Total	8,484

Action taken during the year :-

(1)		Number of houses included in Clearance Areas still to be made.	Nil.
(2)	Section 48, Housing Act,1957	Number of houses in Clearance Area patched for temporary use under this section.	Nil.
(3)	Section 42, Housing Act, 1957.	No.of houses demolished or closed (Clearance Areas)	9
(4)	Section 17, Housing Act, 1957.	No. of houses demolished or closed(individual unfits)	29
(5)		No. of temporary dwellings demolished (huts etc.)	45
(6)	Section 9, Housing Act, 1957	No. of houses declared unfit and capable of repair.	Nil.

HOUSING (Cont'd)

(7) Number of houses made fit 49

(8) Number of unfit houses occupied under licence Nil

(9) Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule)
Certificates of Disrepair :-
(a) Applications received Nil
(b) Certificates issued Nil

NEW HOUSING.

Houses erected during the year :-

For Slum Clearance	By Council	90		
	Private Enterprise		-	
For other purposes	By Council	12		
	Private Enterprise		448	
	TOTALS	102	448	550

Houses in course of Construction :-

For Slum Clearance	By Council	148		
	Private Enterprise		-	
For other purposes	By Council	45		
	Private Enterprise		361	
	TOTALS	193	361	544

Dwellings gained by conversion :- Nil.

Dwellings lost from conversion if two or more houses to one :-

By Council -
Private Enterprise 6

Number of Post-war houses erected from April 1st 1945 to Dec. 31st 1959.

By Council	1,210	(1,198)
Private Enterprise	1,476	(1,465)

(Bracketed figures are those of the Ministry of Local Government; the difference probably due to notified date of completion.)

It is to be noted that it is only in this year that the number of private enterprise houses built since the war exceeds that of those built by the local authority.

Almost one house in every five in the District belongs to the Council and it would appear that houses are no longer being built by private enterprise for letting in rural areas such as this.

Number of temporary housing units occupied at 31.12.59.

Tyntesfield Park 84

It is worthy of note that, at the end of the year, the complete evacuation of the hutment camps at Martcombe, Abbots Leigh, Brockley, Lulsgate, St.George's, Easton-in-Gordano, Yatton and Tyntesfield is in sight. These hutments have served a very useful purpose and

NEW HOUSING(Cont'd)

although they were perforce occupied to the limit of their fitness, they gave homes to a very large number of families awaiting permanent housing, with better facilities and scope than most caravans.

Their passing has left the Council with a serious problem of providing temporary housing, for which they were so useful. As a temporary expedient some old cottages at Nailsea have been refitted to accommodate 5 families, but our tenure is limited to 4 years.

HOUSES ERECTED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

Parish.	1951-55	1957	1958	1959	Under construct 31.12.59.
Abbots Leigh	32	5	5	-	5
Backwell	93	78	83	85	36
Barrow Gurney	2	-	1	1	-
Brockley	5	3	2	-	1
Clapton-in-Gordano	4	1	2	3	-
Cleeve	24	2	4	20	16
Dundry	10	2	2	6	8
Easton-in-Gordano	23	5	22	42	38
Flax Bourton	4	8	5	-	2
Kenn	1	-	1	-	-
Kingston Seymour	3	-	1	-	-
Long Ashton	69	15	26	126	88
Nailsea	49	20	24	110	132
North Weston	39	22	21	7	9
Portbury	4	-	2	-	-
Tickenham	25	9	1	6	3
Walton-in-Gordano	1	-	-	-	-
Weston-in-Gordano	1	1	-	-	-
Winford	17	-	3	5	1
Wraxall	38	19	10	10	9
Yatton	18	13	8	27	13
TOTALS	462	203	223	448	361
TOTAL by Council	521	154	81	102	193

DISTRIBUTION OF COUNCIL'S HOUSES(at 31.12.59)

Parish	Bedrooms:-5	4	3	2	2	2	1	1	TOTAL
	(Houses		)		Bung.	Flat.	Bung.	Flat.	
Abbots Leigh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Backwell	-	-	108	-	8	-	-	-	116
Barrow Gurney	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brockley	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Clapton-in-Gordano	-	-	10	2	-	-	-	-	12
Cleeve	-	-	29	-	20	-	1	-	50
Dundry	-	-	30	4	2	-	-	-	36
Easton-in-Gordano	-	10	308	-	64	-	14	-	396
Flax Bourton	-	-	16	-	4	-	-	-	20
Kenn	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Kingston Seymour	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Long Ashton	-	4	164	8	28	-	2	-	206
Nailsea	1	2	153	16	30	4	6	4	216
North Weston	-	3	65	10	14	-	-	-	92
Portbury	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Parish. Bedrooms:-	5	4	3	2	2	2	1	1	TOTAL
	(Houses			)	Bung.	Flat.	Bung.	Flat.	
Tickenham	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	36
Weston-in-Gordano	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Walton-in-Gordano	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winford	-	2	39	1	4	-	-	-	46
Wraxall	-	-	25	8	4	-	-	-	37
Yatton	-	5	200	-	40	-	-	-	245
Totals	1	26	1201	49	218	4	23	4	1,526

HOUSES MADE FIT.

The following numbers of houses have been made fit in the past few years. Some of these would otherwise have needed action under the Housing Act and were included in those deemed worthy of future action when earlier surveys were done.

1955	49		
1956	60		
1957	55		
1958	61		
1959	49	Total	274

GARAGES.

There is a constant request from tenants of our Housing Estates for permission to erect a garage within the curtilage, and where possible this is granted, subject to the approval of the Housing Manager of the type. There is no doubt of the general need for more garage accommodation on the estates. The Council has erected the following during the year :-

Nailsea	21	Backwell	4
Pill	6	Cleeve	4

The Council now possesses 61 garages in blocks on their estates.

HOUSES REQUIRED.

(i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition	60
(ii) To abate overcrowding	25
(iii) For other purposes	200
Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year	522
Total Number of Council Houses sold during the year	NIL

HOUSING PROGRAMME 1960.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has approved the following schemes for 1960 Housing Programme provided tenders are submitted by June 30th, 1960. Estimated dates are given for submission of tenders :-

Parish.	Proposals.	Date for Tender.
Long Ashton	12 houses, Birdwell Gardens.	Before Ministry.
Backwell	4 Old People's Dwellings	February, 1960.
Pill	9 houses Underbanks Stage II	March and 4 shops.
Nailsea	18 Houses, Southfield Rd.	April.
Long Ashton	6 Old People's Dwellings.	June.
Wraxall	4 Old People's Dwellings.	June.
Flax Bourton	8 Old People's Dwellings.	June.
Portbury	6 Houses, Mill Lane.	June.
Total	67.	

HOUSING.

Improvement Grants.

A. Discretionary.

Number of Applications and houses dealt with by Council during year :-

(1)	Received :-	Applications	46
		No. of dwellings	58
(2)	Approved :-	Applications	40
		No. of dwellings	52

Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers:- 30

Average Cost per dwelling approved £705.

Amount of Grant payable by Council £11,643.

B. Standard.

(1)	Number of applications	(a) Received	37
		(b) Approved	35

(2) Number of houses where standard Amenities have been provided :- 4

REVIEW.

Management. This Council owns and lets some 1,600 houses and is adding continually to that number. 280 of these were built before the war. This is a very considerable undertaking and for some time it has been felt that the organisation of management must call for serious review. In 1958 an investigation was made, with recommendations, by an Organisation and Method team who promised economies, which are unlikely to materialize with the larger problem.

Mr. Carey, the former Housing Manager, died in August and it has been realised what an enormous field of responsibility his office had developed. After much consideration the Council decided to split the work of maintenance from the letting and rent collection without the appointment of a Housing Manager for a trial period.

The pre-war houses are found to need considerable maintenance and, in many cases, improvement, and a broad scheme has been drawn up for this work to be systematically undertaken over the next two years.

Housing Need.

1960, it seems, will find the acute problem greatly relieved. The Housing List of Applicants for Council Houses is still large, but revision may show that a fair number are no longer in need. There are still condemned houses occupied and there are others whose representation has been delayed until houses are available. Permanent caravan dwellers may need to be accepted as applicants.

The District is an attractive one for those who work in Bristol and applications continue to come in which cannot be accepted.

It seems probable that it would be an advantage for the Housing Department to have accurate figures of the number of persons living in each house, particularly the larger ones, so that the available houses may be used to their maximum usefulness.

F O O D

Milk.

(a)	Number of Registered Distributors	16
(b)	Number of Registered Dairy Premises other than Dairy Farms	7
(c)	Number of Licenced dealers of Designated Milk	18
(d)	Number of supplementary licences issued to distributors whose dairy is outside the District	14

ICE CREAM.

Number of Registered Premises for :-

(a)	Manufacture and retail	2
(b)	Manufacture only	Nil
(c)	Retail only	88

Number of Samples taken :-

Grade 1	12
Grade 2	8
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	-

FOOD HYGIENE.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

There has been general supervision of shops throughout the year and investigation of customers' complaints. No statutory action was found necessary, but retailers and manufacturers have been warned. I am not altogether happy about the modern method of wrapped handled food in cellophane. The greatest care must be observed to prevent these packs remaining unsold for many days. It is important that the public bring cases of unfit food to our notice.

PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.

There are 90 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955(Ice Cream,Manufactured Meat Products etc.)

The Slaughter of Animals(Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.
The Slaugterhouse(Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

Slaughterhouses are under constant supervision from weekly visits; no statutory action has been needed.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Five slaughterhouses were licensed in the District, but one which had not been used, was refused renewal of licence in September. There is no Bacon Factory nor place where horses are slaughtered for human consumption.

Slaughterhouses Reports(Appointed Day) Order, 1959.

In preparation for theCouncil's Report all interested parties and authorities were interviewed or contacted and Premises were inspected in the company of the Ministry's Vetinary Officer.

The final Report will be submitted early in the year(1960)

MEAT INSPECTION.

All slaughtered meat is inspected. The following are the figures for carcasses and offal inspected and condemned during the year :-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	900	226	336	3220	3117
Number inspected.	900	226	336	3220	3117
All diseases except Tuberculosis, and Cysticerci.					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	4	3	5	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	142	50	-	13	62
Percentage of total inspected	15.7	13.45	0.89	0.55	2.02
Tuberculosis Only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	4
Percentage of number affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.10

Cysticercosis. No evidence was found.

WEIGHT OF MEAT CONDEMNED FOR :- in lbs.

(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	32
(b) Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Other	2009	3114	146	190	465
TOTAL(in lbs) Condemned	2009	3114	146	190	497
Total for 1958	2134	2152	293	245	655

The remarkable figure is that for Tuberculosis; the following are the figures since 1955 :- (weight of meat condemned)

	Cattle & Cows.	Pigs.
1955	6460 lbs.	340 lbs.
1956	2070 lbs.	464 lbs.
1957	3624 lbs.	144 lbs.
1958	267 lbs.	66 lbs.
1959	Nil	32 lbs.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

No action has been necessary under this Act.

CONCLUSION.

The general health of the District remains good and calls for no comment, apart perhaps, from the relief, shared throughout the country, at the apparent result of the Poliomyelitis inoculation in controlling the disease.

Now the year has passed, The Council, having successfully broken the back of the Housing problem, will have an opportunity to reassess the need. The remarkable event of the year has been the rapid development of Backwell, Nailsea and Long Ashton by private developers building houses for sale. The standard of housing steadily increases and an early problem must be the provision of more garages for car owners.

There is evidence of a steady increase in the Birth Rate here and throughout the country, which must show itself in a larger number of children per family. The Council, owning a large number of houses, will I feel, find it necessary to be sure that larger, even 3 bedroomed, houses are not occupied by couples when their children have grown up and left. It is in a position to move such couples to more economic and suitable accommodation, so that all our houses are most conveniently occupied.

Sewerage progress has been marked and it is sincerely hoped that the long delayed Winford scheme will make a start in 1960. However the greatest Public Health anxiety in the year has been the complete disorganisation of the Nailsea Works by the excessive load thrust upon it by the Cider Works.

In conclusion, I must thank you and your Council for your help throughout the year and express my appreciation of the solid work done by the Surveyor and the Public Health staff. The re-organisation of the Housing Staff has brought a great load of work on already heavily loaded shoulders. The increasing size of the problem made it inevitable.

I am greatly assisted in compiling this Report by the officers and I must express my gratitude.

M.C.O'CONNOR.
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

May, 1960.

APPENDIX I

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Annual Report of the Medical Officef of Health in this respect for the year 1959.

Part I of the Act.

(1) Inspections made for the purposes of the provisions as to health (Including those made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
(a) Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by L.A.	5	3	-	..
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Sec.7. is enforced by L.A.	62	35	3	-
(c) Other premises in which Sect.7. is enforced by L.A.(excluding out-workers premises)	9	6	-	-
TOTAL	76	44	3	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found.	Remedied.	Referred - To H.M.Inspr.	By do.	Prosecutions.
Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) No separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences.	3	2	-	3	-
TOTAL	3	2	-	3	-

OUTWORK. (Part VIII of the Act; Sects. 110 and 111.)